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Weekly Surveyor

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TSWS-1/75

6 January 1975

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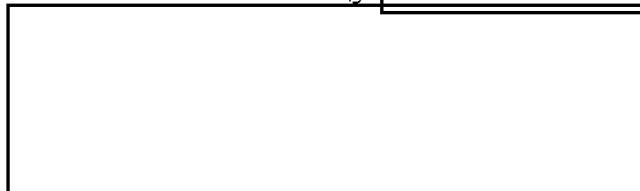
WEEKLY SURVEYOR

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USSR AND EASTERN EUROPE

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centrifuge. This will be the first spacecraft to fly an on-board centrifuge. [REDACTED]



AFRICA

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A serious outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease is reported to be affecting humans as well as animals in the Sudan. Humans, despite their frequent and sometimes intensive exposure, become infected only rarely. This is the first time that the disease has been contracted by humans on a large scale. [REDACTED]

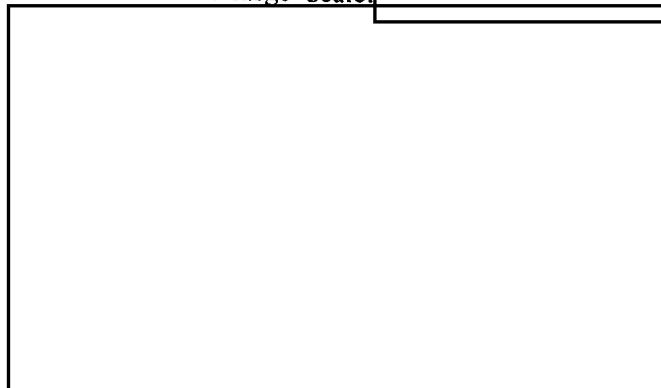
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Soviet use of reach extenders in spacecraft environment strongly indicates design deficiencies in man/machine interface. An extension device to push buttons on a critical command panel during Soyuz-15 crew training was reported. [REDACTED]

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A Soviet biosatellite to be launched in 1975 will include US experiments. One US experiment may be housed in a small [REDACTED]



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SPACE

Soviet Biosatellite Program Will Include US Experiment: A Soviet biosatellite will be launched on or about 15 October 1975. The payload will include both Soviet and US biological experiments. One US experiment may be housed in a small centrifuge in the spacecraft for an in-space artificial gravity (1 g) control experiment.

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Comment: This will be the first USSR/US joint biosatellite endeavor. The success of this cooperative effort will determine whether further joint biological experiments will be attempted on future Soviet biosatellites and space stations. The success of this experiment also will determine whether future biological experiments will be conducted on US manned orbital flights.

In addition, this will be the first spacecraft of any nation to fly an onboard centrifuge. The results of such an artificial gravity experiment are directly related to maintenance of crew health in long-term (months, years) orbital space stations.

The Soviet biosatellite research program is civilian-oriented and administered from the Institute of Medical and Biological Problems (i.e., space medicine), Ministry of Health, in Moscow.

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Soviets Use Inefficient Soyuz Manual Control Device: A photograph in Aviation Week and Space Technology, 30 September, shows a Soviet cosmonaut using an extension device to push buttons on a critical command panel during Soyuz-15 crew training. Soviet crewmen have not been known to use such reach extenders before. These devices were once considered for use in the US Gemini program but were rejected.

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Comment: Use of reach extenders in the space craft environment strongly indicates design deficiencies in man/machine interface. Ideally, all control items should be within normal reach of the pilot. In particular, a critical control panel should be well within reach of the cosmonaut whether he is wearing an inflated or uninflated space suit.

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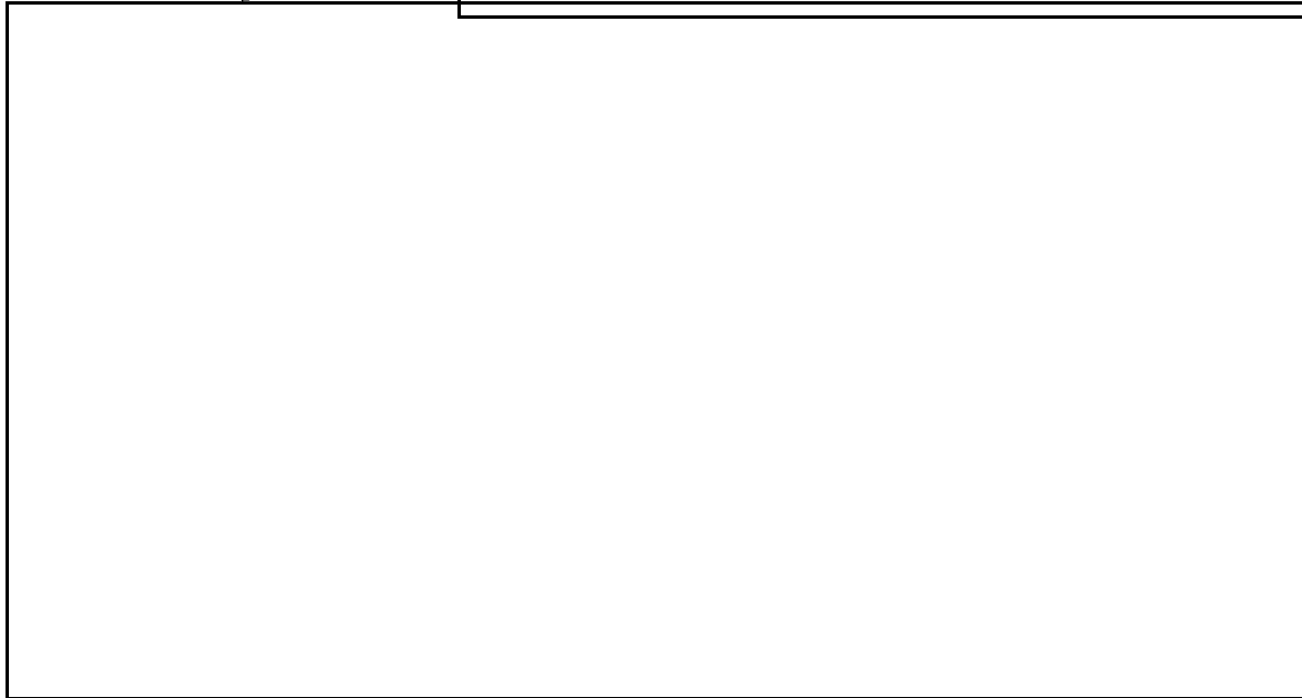
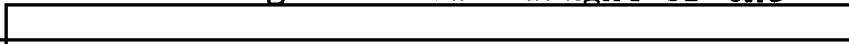
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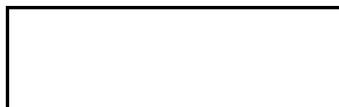
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The need for this device further indicates continuing Soviet problems with mobility of the extremities in the inflated space suit. If reach extenders were used in the simulator, they probably also were used during the actual flight of the Soyuz-15 spacecraft.



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LIFE SCIENCES

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Foot-and-Mouth Disease Outbreak in the Sudan Affecting Both Animals and Humans: A serious outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) is reported to be occurring in the southern region of the Sudan which is affecting both animals and humans. 

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Comment: If accurate, this would be the first time that the disease has been contracted by humans on a large scale. This situation would present a most serious public health problem as well as being a major animal disease problem. FMD, an acute, highly communicable disease is confined primarily to affecting cloven-footed animals (cattle, deer, sheep, and swine). The dog, cat, rabbit, monkey, chicken, and other wild and laboratory species can be infected artificially but are not considered of significance in the spread of the disease. Humans, despite their frequent and sometimes intensive exposure, become infected only rarely. The scientific literature has recorded only limited numbers of isolated cases in humans and never has an outbreak of epidemic proportion been reported in humans. 

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